

## Outline for September 5, 2010 Luke 1:26-38 – A Portrait of Joseph

Introduction: The announcement of Jesus' birth to Mary by Gabriel was glorious and marvelous. What sweet music it is to our ears! What wonder and joy floods our souls as we hear this Word from the throne of God!

### I. Luke's preface and the introduction of John the Baptist and Jesus

A. Preface: Luke carefully builds on precedents (1:1-4)

B. Infancy narrative: Forerunner and Fulfillment (1:5-2:40)

1. Announcement to Zechariah (1:5-25)

2. Announcement to Mary (1:26-38)

a. The angel Gabriel – "was sent from God" (1:26)

b. The sovereign work of God - "was sent" (1:26, Matthew 1:18f, Luke 1-2)

(1) God sends Gabriel to Mary and Joseph

(2) God directs the entire process of Jesus' birth, life, death and resurrection

(3) God orchestrates each event and moment according to His will and purpose

c. Joseph of the "house of David" (1:27, Matthew 1:18, 24-25)

(1) Joseph was a man of deep moral convictions born out of his relationship to God

(2) Joseph was "a just man" (Matthew 1:19)

- He was righteous – put right with God by God and had a right relationship with God

- "unwilling to put her to shame" – this describes Joseph's righteousness

- "betrothed" – engaged to be married

- "resolved" – a settled purpose in his heart

- "considered" – to think through carefully and considerately

(3) Joseph was a godly adoptive father (Matthew 1:21; 2:13-15, 19-23)

- He accepted Mary as his wife according to the Word of God – "he took his wife" (Matthew 1:24)

- He accepted her Son as his own thereby legally placing Christ in the house and lineage of David (Matthew 1:21, Luke 2:4)

- He was obedient to God in the protection and provision for Mary and Jesus (Matthew 2:13-15, 19-23)

(4) Joseph's fatherhood was anchored in the fatherhood of God

- Adoption – This mighty and weighty theological doctrine is written large over and in this narrative

- As Joseph adopted Jesus into the house and lineage of David so we are adopted into the family of God through David's greater Son, the Lord Jesus Christ (Romans 8:15-17, 9:4; Galatians 4:4-5; Ephesians 1:5)

- Fatherhood is displayed in the context of a mighty warrior – defending, protecting, providing for, guarding and loving (Psalm 68:5, 19-20, 32-35; James 1:26-27)

(5) Joseph submitted to the governing authorities and obeyed the laws of the land (Luke 2:1-5)

(6) Joseph worshipped God in Spirit and in truth (Luke 2:22-24, 39, 41-42)

- Presented Jesus, their Son, to the Lord at the appropriate time (Luke 2:22-24, 39)

- Attended the feast of the Passover on a yearly basis (Luke 2:41-42)

NOTE: All of life is worship. Carrying out our responsibilities as fathers and mothers is worship. Defending and caring for widows and orphans is worship. Living to protest abortion and to stand up for the unborn is worship. To challenge this culture of death with the gospel is worship.